गठित नहीं हुई है। इस मिनिस्ट्री आफ माइन्स की कंसलटेटिव कमेटी अभी तक गठित नहीं हुई है। मैंने पिछले सत्र में विशेष उल्लेख में भी इस ओर ध्यान आकर्षित किया था। महोदय, मैं मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहता हूं कि इतने महत्वपूर्ण मंत्रालय की परामर्शदात्री समिति अभी तक क्यों नहीं गठित हुई है?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Puppet shows

*63. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had held any puppet shows for the children on the occasion of the International Puppetry Day recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount incurred; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to increase the awareness about the puppet shows among kids?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. On the occasion of International Puppetry Day, a festival and exhibition 'Putul Yatra' was organised on Indian puppets in Mumbai. The Festival had as many as ten performances of puppeteers from all over India. A workshop on 'Role of Puppetry in Education' was also organised during this occasion at Guwahati.

(c) An amount of Rs. 23.62 lakhs was incurred on these programmes.

(d) Workshops and training programmes have been conducted by Sangeet Natak Akademi in the field of puppetry providing a platform for children to learn manipulation techniques, making of puppets, singing of folk songs etc. Awards to puppeteers, grants to institutions, documentation, exhibitions and festivals of puppetry are included in Akademi's regular support to puppetry. Akademi also holds monthly shows of puppetry and interaction in Delhi and has screened films to increase awareness about the art.

The Centre for Cultural Resources and Training (CCRT) has been offering Puppetry as a teaching tool in order to disseminate information

on Indian culture to children. Their regular programme includes scholarships to children and awards to school teachers for popularizing puppetry. They organize workshops on Role of Puppetry in Education in which a number of local students participate.

The Ministry of Culture has been offering scholarships for all types of puppet theatre. Production grants, buildings grants and salary grants have also been given to institutions involved in puppetry.

Abolition of quota and reservation in private institutions

*67. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA:

SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court of India has recently ruled that Government's requirement that the private institutions which do not receive any State aid, should also follow Government's policy on reservation of seats for the backward classes, is a serious encroachment on the rights and autonomy of these institutions;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) Government's reaction thereto and the steps, if any, proposed in this regard;

(d) Whether Government have constituted any committee for monitoring the fee-structure in the private institutes; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (c) The Supreme Court observed in the case of P.A. Inamdar and ors. Vs. State of Maharashtra and ors. that the State cannot impose its reservation policy on minority and non-minority unaided private institutions. According to the order of the Supreme Court neither the policy of reservation can be enforced by the State nor any quota or percentage of admissions can be carved out to be appropriated by the State in a minority or non-minority unaided private institution. The Government is in the process of evolving a common national approach to this important issue which addresses national, social and constitutional imperatives in a holistic manner.